

April 15, 2003

Mr. Thomas Baillieul, Director
U.S. Department of Energy
Columbus Closure Project
1425 Plain City-Georgesville Rd.
West Jefferson, OH 43162

Dear Mr. Baillieul:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (April 5-11, 2003)

I. Operations:

Building JN-1:

Work continued on Work Instruction (WI) -1159 for utility removal in the Controlled Access Area/Old Back Dock and Old Operations Area.

LA-03-034-W (six bins of contaminated laundry/respirators for vendor processing) was shipped on April 9, 2003. Seven bins of processed laundry/respirators were received.

Draft WI-1158, "Decontamination/Stabilization of the Hot Equipment Storage Room," is undergoing manager review.

Personnel used the vendor loaned InstaCote® system to apply strippable polycoat to the entire High Energy Cell (HEC). The equipment was used in accordance with WI-1105 to perform the spraying. Next week, peeling of the lower half of the HEC will begin; and then the lower half will be re-sprayed. This work will prepare the HEC for crane removal. The BCLDP polycoat system is still being worked on at the representative's facility.

Work began under WI-1129, which covers lead removal from the HEC windows. Workers were trained in accordance with the new lead program, and their baseline blood work was completed. Work will continue next week.

WI-1099, "Removal of the HEC Cranes" is being finalized. Myers Movers' work plan and engineering drawings for removing the cranes and crane rails from the HEC are still being

completed. Issuing Revision 0 of the WI is planned to allow for support area setup; the final Myers' work plan will be included in Revision 1 of the WI.

Work continued on plans for repackaging the Saxton fuel pin. Pursuit of shipping options for the repackaged pin continued. The drum liner to be used to perform mock-up demonstrations for removing the pin should be delivered next week.

The JN-1B Pump Room is being decontaminated and prepared for stabilization.

The satellite radiochemistry lab and its associated ventilation piping are being removed.

Performed On-site inspection of the Evaporator equipment at the PSI facility in New Hampshire. After some minor work, Evaporator should be ready to ship within a week.

Building JN-3

Water is being pumped continually from under the JN-3 basement via the wells and pumps installed in the Pump Room and around the reactor pool.

West Jefferson (WJ) External Areas:

Ground water is being pumped from the wells on the exterior of JN-3.

Completed the final check of utility drawings for the JN-4 isolation plan. The geotechnical investigation of the area for the new road was performed.

Transuranic (TRU) Waste Shipping:

The formal transmittal to the DOE-Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) of the JN-4 acceptable knowledge data package and the real-time radiography (X-ray) videotape was delayed for one week. The reason for the delay was to update the inventory and the radioisotopic characterization.

The BCLDP participated in the Small Quantity Site/CBFO conference call this week. The focus of the call was to finalize inventories for both the contact- and remote-handled TRU waste and to discuss the "Acceleration Process Line" for characterizing contact-handled TRU waste. The next call will be April 24.

Non-Conformance Report 03-008 for TRU waste container BC0078 was closed out this week.

Low Level Waste (LLW) Operations:

Fifty-three cubic feet (53 ft³) of compactible LLW were accepted for packaging. Non-compactible low-level debris from radioactive material areas in JN-1 was packaged into

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B-25 boxes and IP-1 intermodal containers, for a total volume of 1,263 ft³ (1,240 ft³ for Envirocare of Utah and 23 ft³ for Hanford Nuclear Facility disposal.)

Fourteen cubic feet (14 ft³) of compactible waste were radiologically free-released for municipal disposal. Seven cubic feet (7 ft³) of desiccant from the JN-1 breathing air system and five gallons of oil were free-released for BCO-HWO recycle/disposal.

Eleven B-25 boxes of LLW were shipped to Envirocare for disposal. Total volume of LLW shipped was 1,080 ft³.

WIDE Technology Deployment:

In support of WI-984, staff injected 1,200 gallons of water into plot for spring profile of Plot 2 and reviewed the data of the injection cycle testing. The advance copies of the injection and extraction procedures are in review. Engineering modifications to extract water from the field neared completion. Plot 2 subsurface water level monitoring continued. Planning continued (for WI-1132) to begin extraction testing.

II. Environmental Safety and Health Performance:

Safety performance is 199 days and 139,142 exposure hours without a lost time injury accident.

III. Facilities and Equipment:

Daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenance for the WJ North facility alarms, instrumentation, building functions, tickler system, and grounds were completed. The evaporator remained off.

WI-1131 for JN-1B Pump Room roof resurfacing is being distributed. The JN-1 Pump Room roof resurfacing was awarded, and communication was begun to schedule their staff for site training.

IV. Future Work Activities:

Attached is the projected work schedule for the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weaver, P.E., Manager
Operations

PJW:dew/dmk